

Kiwanis Community



Kiwanis® CLUB OF MARTINEZ

December 2025 Newsletter

Kiwanis is a global organization of men and women dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time

Happy Kiwanis Holidays!



The holiday season is upon us and here's what's happening for Kiwanians:

The **See's Candies fundraiser** is in its 25th season to raise funds for the club to "improve the world one child and one community at a time". We're selling at Les Schwab Tire, 3800 Alhambra Ave., Monday through Saturday until Christmas eve. If you have not signed up to work you can do so at a meeting, or by contacting Maureen Cowger (925) 642-0698 for a link to the signup sheet.

The candies we are selling this year, and their prices, are shown on a following page.

The annual **Holiday Party** will be Thursday, December 18 starting at 6pm, at the clubhouse. Sign up to bring a dish to share and warm up to sing some carols of the season. Bring a guest and a prospective member, too.

A calendar of Kiwanis events is set out on the last page of this edition.

At our December 11 meeting we will honor our late member **Ed Williams** by **dedicating the Kawai piano** he and his wife Angie donated to the club. A plaque will be attached to the piano, and Angie and Ed's brother John will attend. Our piano player Steve pronounces the piano is in "beautiful shape".



See's Candies 2025

Make your shopping list, and show this page to your friends and neighbors. The Kiwanis See's Candies store is inside Les Schwab Tire, 3800 Alhambra Ave., Martinez. Sales hours are Mon-Fri 9:30 am to 5:30 pm, and Sat 9:30-5:00 pm

 <p>Happy Holidays Box and Silver Assorted 1/2 pound of delicious favorites, it's the perfect stocking stuffer.</p> <p>8 oz \$18.25</p>	 <p>Santa's Helpers or Festive Ornament Box An assortment of irresistible treats</p> <p>3.5 oz \$11.50</p>	 <p>Peanut Brittle Buttery, crunchy and irresistible</p> <p>5 oz \$10.50 10 oz \$20.00 1 1/2 lbs \$32.00</p>
 <p>Assorted Chocolates Milk and dark decadence. Delivered in seasonal wrap.</p> <p>1 lb. \$32.00 2 lbs \$61.00</p>	 <p>Nuts and Chews Yummy, Crunchy and Chewy. Delivered in seasonal wrap.</p> <p>1 lb. \$32.00 2 lbs \$61.00</p>	 <p>Soft Centers Milk and dark chocolate. Delivered in seasonal wrap.</p> <p>1 lb. \$32.00 2 lbs \$61.00</p>
 <p>Milk Chocolate Milk chocolate delights. Delivered in seasonal wrap.</p> <p>1 lb. \$32.00</p>	 <p>Dark Chocolate Dark chocolate delights. Delivered in seasonal wrap.</p> <p>1 lb. \$32.00</p>	 <p>Truffles Wonderfully decadent and rich</p> <p>1 lb. \$40.75</p>
 <p>Assorted Peppermints Creamy mint treats in milk and dark chocolate</p> <p>8 oz \$16.00</p>	 <p>Assorted Molasses Chips Crunchy treats in milk and dark chocolate</p> <p>8 oz \$18.50</p>	 <p>Toffee-ettes Crunchy toffee in milk with almonds</p> <p>1 lb \$32.00</p>
 <p>Almond Royale Rich, chewy chocolate caramel with roasted almonds</p> <p>1 lb. \$32.00</p>	 <p>Happy Holidays Box A cheerful collection of Milk chocolate Santas, Lollipops and jelly beans</p> <p>8.0 oz \$18.25</p>	 <p>Butterscotch, Chocolate or Assorted Lollipops Made with butter & cream. Come in vanilla, coffee, chocolate and butterscotch.</p> <p>\$1.25 Individually \$31.50 for box of 30</p>
 <p>Awesome Candy Bars Peanut Brittle, Walnut, Nut & Chew</p> <p>Delicious, individually wrapped candy bars with crunchy peanut brittle & milk chocolate; or walnut and caramel or chewy nougat and almonds with dark chocolate.</p>	 <p>Bridge Mix Happiness by the handful. Almonds, pecans and raisins coated in chocolate</p>	 <p>Victoria Toffee 1lb \$35.00</p> <p>Playful Penguins Box 7.5 oz \$14.50</p>

All About The Foundation



The Martinez Kiwanis Foundation makes possible the Centennial Grant program that celebrates the club's 100th anniversary. Members of the Foundation recently approved a grant of up to \$10000 to the Boys and Girls Club for maintenance and similar expenses associated with the van recently donated to it.

At its December 4 meeting the members will consider approving a grant for "Phase 1" improvements to the clubhouse including cabinetry. Where did this Foundation come from? It all started with the Kiwanis Club of Concord which incorporated a foundation in 1973; rumor has it that the proceeds of sale of a house built by the club were the original source of funds. When the Concord club disbanded in 1987, it donated the funds to our club, and the name was changed to "The Martinez Kiwanis Foundation". Then original Martinez trustees were Robert Burgess, Cliff Egan, Johnn Davis, Carl Rush, and Bill Sharkey, all former club presidents whose pictures appear on the club wall.

By 2013 the foundation had assets of \$98000 which had grown to \$305000 by 2024. The foundation took on a new shape in 2015 when bylaws were amended to provide that all club members were foundation members and the club officers and directors also served the foundation. Then in late 2024, the foundation received a \$175000 bequest from the estate of late club member Bill Chase. Current assets are \$ 558000.

You can support the foundation by donating to "The Martinez Kiwanis Foundation", an IRC Section 501(c) (3) organization, so donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.

Supervisor Scales-Preston Speaks to Club



Shanelle Scales-Preston, District 5 county supervisor, spoke to the club on November 20. She described the efforts of the Board to deal with funding cutbacks from the federal government. She said the County is in sound financial shape with a large reserve fund.

Shanelle is a former Pittsburg city councilmember and is approaching one year's service on the Board of Supervisors. She represents a district which includes all of Martinez.

Kiwanis Supports Food Drive



With the great help of 10 College Park Key Clubbers, Kiwanians solicited support for the Food Bank at 3 local Safeway Stores on November 15.

Kiwanis Club of Martinez

750 Allen St., P.O. Box 1886, Martinez CA 94553, www.martinezkiwanis.org

You can find this newsletter on the website

Officers 2025-2026

President **Steve Francis**

President-Elect **Connie Chapman**

Treasurer **Patty Winsor**

Secretary **Bob Braun**

Immediate Past President **Igor Skaredoff**

Directors-Trustees 2024-2026

Migs Carter

Dawn Manley

Maureen Cowger

Marylee Taylor

Directors-Trustees 2025-2027

John Noon

Donald Pallotta

Perry Picchi

Bill Patt

Committee Chairs

Bocce Capo **Les Johnson**

City Liasion **Donald Pallotta**

Chamber of Commerce Liason **Denis Smith**

Community Grants **Donald Pallotta**

Centennial Grants **David Gerson, Steve**

Francis

Dolly Parton Book Program **Frank Hall**

Safeway Food Bank Drive **David Gerson**

Loaves & Fishes **Maureen Cowger**

Meals on Wheels **Bill Patt**

Membership **Denis Smith**

See's Candies fundraiser **Patty Winsor,**

Maureen Cowger, Connie Chapman

Service Leadership Programs (SLPs):

Alhambra High Key Club **Kristin Connelly**

College Park High Key Club **Denis Smith**

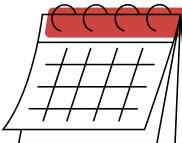
Scholarships **Carol Walsh**

Social Media/Promotion **Dawn**

Manley/Connie Chapman

Newsletter Editor **Tom Watrous**

Staff Photographer **Denis Smith**



Kiwanis Kalendar

Here is a list of Kiwanis activities for the month:

Program Chair **Tom Watrous**

Thursday, Dec. 4: Tom Greerty will tell about Growing Up in Martinez, and we wlll vote on the Centennial Grant proposal for clubhouse improvements.

INVOCATION Kristin Connelly

Thursday, December 11: **David Gerson** will explain the history and traditions of Hanukkah, the other December holiday, and we will dedicate the piano in memory of **Ed Williams**.

INVOCATION Maureen Cowger

Board Meeting following regular meeting

Thursday, Dec. 18: No noon meeting. Holiday Party at the clubhouse at 6pm.

INVOCATION Lara Delaney

Thursday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day. No meeting.

Thursday, January 1, 2026 New Years Day. No meeting.

Kiwanians Celebrating...

Birthdays:

12/3 **Patty Winsor**

12/5 **Lara Delaney**

12/12 **Thora Harshman**

12/20 **Frank Hall**

Kiwanis Anniversaries:

12/9/2006 **Igor Skaredoff**

12/19/24 **Jay Howard**

Wedding Anniversaries:

12/2/2004 Diane Dunlap and **Mark Ross**

12/5/1964 Mary Lou and **Les Johnson**

12/7/1991 Mike and **Noralea Gipner**



Meals on Wheels Drivers



Dec. 2 **Bill Patt**

Dec. 9 **Carol Walsh**

Dec. 16 **Laurie Pittman**

Dec. 23 **Perry Picchi**

Dec. 30 **Mark Ross**